

ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH FOUNDATION

P.O. Box 73700 Washington, D.C. 20056-3700 (202) 328-1119

August 29, 1991

Freedom of Information Unit
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
401 M Street SW
Washington, DC 20460

To whom it may concern:

This letter is a formal request under the federal Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552) for all documents related to an alleged criminal investigation that was reportedly being conducted by EPA during February, 1991. Attached to this letter, please find a photocopy of an article that appeared in *Science* magazine Feb. 8, 1991, pg. 626, entitled, "Monsanto Studies Under Fire" which says, EPA "has launched a criminal investigation to determine whether Monsanto Corporation of St. Louis falsified three epidemiologic studies of its workers, which showed no increased health risks from dioxin other than the skin disease chloracne."

I am seeking four specific kinds of documents:

- 1) All allegations leading up to the commencement of, or the decision not to commence, a criminal investigation of the Monsanto studies.
- 2) All internal EPA documents related to the alleged investigation.
- 3) All documents relating in any way to the actual investigation itself, if one occurred.
- 4) Any conclusions resulting from the investigation, which may have been forwarded to the Justice Department.

As associate editor of a newsletter of general circulation, *Rachel's Hazardous Waste News*, I ask that you waive any expenses incurred in connection with this request. The records that I seek will be disclosed in our newsletter, which circulates to local citizen leaders and to journalists across the country and will primarily be used to inform the general public. If you do not waive expenses, please notify me of any charges in excess of \$100 prior to their being incurred, for my approval.

If you do not grant my request within 10 working days, I will deem my request denied. If you deny any portion of my request,

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please provide me *in writing* the reason(s) for the denial.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely yours,

Maria B. Pellerano
Associate Editor

cc: Office of Criminal Investigations, Denver, CO
Kevin Guarino, Office of Criminal Investigations, Washington,
DC

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